SUMMARY

MYCIN represents the first of a new generation of computer programs that reason about the world, explain their reasoning, and provide advice that is comparable to advice provided by human experts. MYCIN's development marks a transition in AI research. MYCIN's success proved that expert systems technology was strong enough to leave the laboratory, with its academic and well-circumscribed problems, and enter commercial environments with their incomplete and uncertain information, skeptical users who demand justifications, and domains where substantial amounts of knowledge are the prerequisite of good judgment.